

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new claims 23-26 as follows:

B² 23. (New) A process for producing the arachidonic acid-containing microbial lipid of claim 11 comprising the steps of

culturing a microorganism in which ω 3 desaturase activity has been decreased or is lacking at a temperature lower than the optimum growth temperature from the start of culturing or after culturing at the optimum growth temperature, said microorganism being obtained by mutagenesis of a microorganism capable of producing arachidonic acid and belonging to the genus Mortierella, the genus Conidiobolus, the genus Pythium, the genus Phytophthora, the genus Penicillium, the genus Cladosporium, the genus Mucor, the genus Fusarium, the genus Aspergillus, the genus Thodotorula, the genus Entomophthora, the genus Echinosporangium or the genus Saprolegnia; and then

recovering said arachidonic acid-containing microbial lipid from the culture.

24. (New) The process according to claim 23 comprising culturing said mutant strain in a medium containing hydrocarbons, fatty acids, fatty acid esters, fatty acid salts, or lipids containing them as components; or adding to the culture in which said mutant strain is being cultured hydrocarbons, fatty acids, fatty acid esters, fatty acid salts, or lipids containing them as components, and then further culturing.

25. (New) A process for producing the arachidonic acid-containing microbial lipid of claim 11 comprising the steps of

culturing a microorganism in which $\omega 3$ desaturase activity has been decreased or is lacking at a temperature lower than 20°C from the start of culturing or after culturing at 20 to 40°C, said microorganism being obtained by the mutagenesis of a microorganism belonging to the subgenus Mortierella; and then

recovering said arachidonic acid-containing microbial lipid from the culture.

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26. (New) The method according to claim 25 comprising culturing said mutant strain in a medium containing hydrocarbons, fatty acids, fatty acid esters, fatty acid salts, or lipids containing them as components; or adding to the culture in which said mutant strain is being cultured hydrocarbons, fatty acids, fatty acid esters, fatty acid salts, or lipids containing them as components, and then further culturing.

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and favorable consideration on the merits of all the claims of record are respectfully requested.

By the foregoing amendment, the specification has been amended to identify the international application to which the subject application claims priority. Moreover, new claims 23-26 have been added. Support for these new claims can be found throughout the originally filed application. No new matter has been added.